WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1.   A method for generating program code for translating high level code into instructions for a target processors, the method comprising:

determining a program code characteristic corresponding to a target processor;

deriving one or more program code modules in accordance with said desired program code characteristic; and

generating program code for translating high level code into instructions for said target processor from said one or more program code modules.

2.   A method according to claim 1, for generating program code for translating high level code into instructions for one of a plurality of target processors.

3.   A method according to claim 1, comprising forming agglomerated program code from a plurality of program code modules in accordance with said desired program code characteristic.

4.   A method according to claim 1, further comprising deriving said program code modules in accordance with a desired functionality for said target processor.

5.   A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said step of determining comprises determining respective program code characteristics for respective ones of a plurality of target processors;

said step of deriving comprises deriving respective program code modules in accordance with said respective program code characteristics; and

said step of generating comprises generating program code for translating high level code into instructions for said target processors from said program code modules.

6.   A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of deriving comprises selecting one or more pre-defined program code modules in accordance with said program code characteristic from a plurality of available program code modules.

7.   A method according to claim 1, wherein said program code provides a virtual machine for said target processor or processors.

8.   A method according to claim 1, wherein said program code comprises JAVA program elements.

9.   A software tool for creating program code for translating between high level code and instructions for a target processor, comprising software tool elements for:
        determining a program code characteristic corresponding to a target processor;
        selecting one or more predefined program code modules in accordance with said program code characteristic; and
        forming program code for translating high level code into instructions for said target processor from said selected one or more predefined program code modules.

10.   A software tool according to claim 9, for creating program code for translating between high level code and instructions for one of a plurality of target processors.

11.   A data processing apparatus for creating program code for translating between high level code and instructions for a target processor, the data processing apparatus being configured to:
        determine a program code characteristic corresponding to a target processor identifier input to said data processing apparatus;
        derive one or more program code modules in accordance with said program code characteristic; and

create program code for translating high level code into instructions for said target processor from said derived one or more program code modules

12. The data processing apparatus according to claim 11, further configured for creating program code for translating between high level code and instructions for one of a plurality of target processors.

13. Program code comprising at least one program code module of a plurality of program code modules for translating between high level code and instructions for a target processor, said at least one program code module corresponding to a characteristic of said target processor and being selected from said plurality of program code modules.

14. Program code comprising at least two program code modules for translating between high level code and instructions for respective ones of at least two target processors.

15. The program code according to claim 14, said at least two program code modules being selected from a plurality of predefined program code modules.

16. Program code according to claim 13, comprising an agglomeration of two or more program code modules.

17. Program code according to claim 14, comprising an agglomeration of two or more program code modules.

18. Program code according to claim 13, for providing a virtual machine for said target processor or processors.

19.   Program code according to claim 14, for providing a virtual machine for said target processor or processors.

20.   Program code according to claim 13, said program code comprising JAVA program elements.

21.   Program code according to claim 14, said program code comprising JAVA program elements.

22.   A processor, configured in accordance with program code comprising at least one program code module of a plurality of program code modules, for translating between high level code and instructions for a target processor, said at least one program code module being in accordance with a characteristic of said target processor and selected from said plurality of program code modules.

23.   A processor, configured by program code comprising an agglomeration of two or more program code modules of said plurality of said program code modules.

24.   A system comprising a first and second processor, said first and second processor configured in accordance with program code comprising at least two program code modules, wherein the first of said at least two program code modules is arranged to translate high level code to instructions for said first processor and a second of said at least two program code modules is arranged to translate high level code to instructions for said second processor.

25.   A computer program comprising computer program elements for configuring a computer to implement the method of claim 1.

26.   A computer program comprising computer program elements translatable for configuring a computer to implement the method of claim 1.

27.   A carrier medium carrying a computer program according to claim 24.